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CLARE RURAL DISTRICT
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ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY OF WEST SUFFOLK
=====

ANNUAL REPORT
=====

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

FOR THE YEAR

1958

To the Chairman and Members
of the
Clare Rural District Council.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the Report on the Public Health services for the year 1958.

As will be seen, the population of the Rural District is estimated by the Registrar General to have declined to a slight extent and considerably fewer babies were born in the district during the year.

Deaths, on the other hand, showed little variation in numbers and it will be noted that Heart disease in one form or another was responsible for almost half of them. There was a reduction in the deaths from Cancer and none of these were situated in the lung. No deaths occurred from Leucaemia.

Good progress was made in the extension of the Clare Sewerage Scheme to take in the Parish of Cavendish, and other parishes were reviewed and inspected with a view that they too should eventually receive the benefits of a sewer, so necessary these days.

I again wish to record my appreciation of the enthusiasm and encouragement given by the Chairman and Members of the Public Health Committee. The Clerk of the Council, Mr. J. Allpress, and your Senior Public Health Inspector, Mr. H.A. Smith, have invariably been most co-operative in every way and for this I thank them.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient Servant,

G.P. BARCLAY

Medical Officer of Health.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

1. (Figures in brackets throughout the Report relate to the previous year).

Area of the District	49,360 acres
Number of Parishes	24
Rateable Value	£78,539
Sum represented by a Penny rate	£ 328.15.3
Number of inhabited houses according to Rate Books	2,945
Population (Registrar General's Estimate)	9,280
Population (1951 Census)	9,413

2. PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE COUNCIL

(a) Medical Officer of Health who also serves other districts
(Appointed 1st October 1950).

(b) Chief Public Health Inspector:

Mr. H. A. Smith (appointed 1st November 1944) who also
holds the appointment of Engineer and Surveyor.

Additional Public Health Inspectors -

Mr. W.R.H. Gilling (commenced duties with the Council
1st July 1958.)

Mr. E. A. Burgon and Mr. K. Harrison, Veterinary Surgeons,
are appointed for the purpose of meat inspection at The
Great Wratting Abattoir.

3.

VITAL STATISTICS

LIVE BIRTHS:	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	(71) 54	(87) 57	(158) 111
Illegitimate	(1) 0	(5) 2	(6) 2
Totals	(72) 54	(92) 59	(164) 113
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated population (crude)			(17.5) 12.1
Birth Rate per 1,000 estimated resident population (adjusted)			(21.0) 14.1
Birth Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)			(16.1) 16.4
Illegitimate Birth Rate..			(3.1%) 1. 4

STILL BIRTHS:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	(-) 3	(2) 0	(2) 3
Illegitimate	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -
Totals	(-) 3	(2) -	(2) 3
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still births)			12.0 23.0
" " " " " " " (England and Wales)			- 21.6

DEATHS:

	Male (60) 60	Female (51) 44	Total (111) 104
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (crude)			(11.9) 11.2
Death Rate per 1,000 estimated population (adjusted)			(10.2) 9.6
Death Rate per 1,000 population (England and Wales)			(11.5) 11.7
Death from Pregnancy, Childbirth and Abortion			Nil Nil

INFANT MORTALITY:

It can be expected that these rates will show considerable variation from year to year as the figures are relatively small.

Number of deaths of infants under one year of age:

	Male	Female	Total
Legitimate	(1) 1	(2) -	(3) 1
Illegitimate	(-) -	(-) -	(-) -
Totals	(1) 1	(2) -	(3) 1

NEO NATAL MORTALITY

One infant death occurred in the first four weeks of life.



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DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER FOUR WEEKS:

Neo Natal Mortality rate per 1,000 live births	Total
	8.8

DEATH RATE OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR OF AGE:

(a) All infants per 1,000 live births	(17.0)	8.8
(b) Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	(17.8)	9.0
(c) All infants England and Wales	(23)	22.5

RATES FOR PREVIOUS FIVE YEARS:

	1953	1954	1955	1956	1957	1958
Adjusted Birth Rates	15.9	15.7	14.8	13.8	21.0	14.8
Adjusted Death Rates	9.6	9.9	10.4	12.7	10.2	9.6

4. CAUSES OF DEATH

Disease	Male		Female		Total
Tuberculosis	(2)	0	(0)	0	(2) 0
Measles	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0) 0
Whooping Cough	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0) 0
Diphtheria	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0) 0
Cancer (all types)	(9)	6	(15)	6	(24) 12
Heart Disease (all forms)	(22)	30	(16)	19	(38) 49
Vascular Lesions of the nervous system	(9)	8	(7)	8	(16) 16
Diabetes	(1)	0	(0)	2	(1) 2
Influenza	(0)	0	(0)	1	(0) 1
Pneumonia	(1)	4	(3)	4	(4) 8
Bronchitis	(4)	2	(0)	2	(4) 4
Other Diseases of the Respiratory System	(1)	1	(0)	0	(1) 1
Accidents (Motor Vehicles)	(0)	1	(0)	0	(0) 1
Accidents (not Motor Vehicles) ..	(3)	2	(1)	0	(4) 2
Suicide	(1)	0	(0)	0	(1) 0
Nephritis	(2)	0	(1)	0	(3) 0
Gastritis Enteritis Diarrhoea ..	(0)	0	(1)	2	(1) 2
Ulcer of the Stomach and Duodenum	(2)	1	(0)	0	(2) 1
Congenital Malformation 1.....	(1)	1	(2)	0	(3) 1
Other defined and ill-defined diseases	(2)	4	(5)	0	(7) 4
Totals all causes	(60)	60	(51)	44	(111) 104

5. PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS
AND OTHER DISEASES.

The year was happily free from any major epidemic of notifiable disease, in fact only 10% of the population suffered from such disease.

NOTIFIABLE DISEASES.

	Male		Female		Total	
Scarlet Fever	(0)	2	(1)	2	(1)	4
Erysipelas	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0
Whooping Cough	(16)	1	(21)	2	(37)	3
Measles	(28)	21	(31)	25	(59)	46
Pneumonia, Acute	(1)	2	(0)	3	(1)	5
Poliomyelitis	(1)	0	(0)	0	(1)	0
Infective Hepatitis	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0
Puerperal Pyrexia	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0
Food Poisoning	(0)	0	(0)	0	(0)	0
Dysentery	(1)	0	(0)	0	(1)	0

6. TUBERCULOSIS

	Pulmonary			Non-Pulmonary			Total
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	all Types
No. of cases on register at commencement of year....	18 (23)	14 (15)	32 (38)	6 (4)	4 (3)	10 (7)	42 (45)
No. of cases added during the year	2 (2)	2 (1)	4 (3)	0 (2)	0 (1)	0 (3)	4 (6)
No. of cases removed during the year	2 (7)	4 (2)	6 (9)	3 (0)	2 (0)	5 (0)	11 (9)
No. remaining on register at end of year	18 (18)	12 (14)	30 (32)	3 (6)	2 (4)	5 (10)	35 (42)

7. NATIONAL ASSISTANCE ACT, 1948.

Section 47 - Removal to suitable premises of persons in need of care and attention.

Action under this section was necessary in two cases.

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION IS SUPPLIED BY YOUR CHIEF PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR:-

A. WATER SUPPLIES.

The Council's main sources of supply are at Great Wratting and Depden.

Water is pumped from duplicate boreholes at Great Wratting to an underground storage reservoir near Hundon Hall which supplies 19 of the parishes in the area, and also the Stradishall R.A.F. Station. Analysis shows the water to be wholesome and fit for drinking. It is chlorinated at the source. Hardness is given as 401 parts per million.

Five parishes in the North of the area are supplied from the Depden Tower with water pumped from the Thingoe R.D.C. reservoir in the adjoining parish of Rede. This water is shown on analysis to be wholesome and fit for drinking purposes and with a hardness of 272 parts per million.

Bulk supplies are given to Mildenhall, Thingoe and Haverhill Councils and a supply to 7 houses in the Halstead Rural area.

A supply is received from Haverhill U.D.C. for the Meldham Bridge area of Withersfield parish for a population of about 40, and about 15 people in the Stansfield and Hawkedon parishes receive a direct supply from the mains of Melford R.D.C. which pass through these parishes.

It is estimated that about 86 per cent of the population in your area have a piped water supply.

The total quantity of water abstracted from the Great Wratting Source for the year ended 31st October 1958 was 90,070,000 gallons, and the average daily pumping rate was 15,700 gallons per hour. The possibility of augmenting this supply to allow for increased demand is being considered by the Council.

B. SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.

The only major sewerage scheme in the area was completed at Clare in 1956.

A scheme for Cavendish is in progress and expected to be completed towards the middle of next year. The joint sewage disposal works for both parishes being situated East of Clare. They are functioning satisfactorily, as evidenced by samples of sewage effluent taken frequently throughout the year. The works and pumping stations are being well maintained.

The Council are discussing the possibility of installing further village sewerage schemes, and it is possible that a scheme for Kedington and Great Wratting may reach tendering stage in 1959.

In general, the discharge of untreated sewage into ditches and other water courses, has continued to give rise to nuisances, particularly in the built-up Village areas, and it is extremely difficult if not impossible, to abate such nuisances in the absence of sewers and disposal works.

C. PUBLIC CLEANSING AND REFUSE DISPOSAL.

Household bin refuse is collected from about 90% of the houses in your area, fortnightly, in 14 parishes, and once per month in the remaining part of the area.

Collection is done by two full time employees and one vehicle.

A small number of pail closets are being collected at Clare and Cavendish, on payment by the users of these conveniences.

Cesspools on Council House sites throughout the area are cleaned out under Contract each quarter.

Refuse tips are in use at Kodington, Denston and Wickhambrook and rodent control thereon is carried out by your own staff.

Collection of waste paper is done at the time of bin collection, and paper sold unsorted in bulk.

D. INSPECTION OF THE AREA.

The following is a statement of the number and nature of inspections made by the Department during the year under various Acts, Orders and Byelaws in force within the area.

Housing (Defects and Nuisances)	63
Housing Acts	121
Drainage installation and Building Byelaws	101
Housing Maintenance	306
Sewage Disposal	68
Factory Acts	12
Factory Outworkers	18
Infectious Diseases	2
Verminous Premises	5
Refuse Collection and Disposal	62
Petroleum Acts	37
Caravans	22
Rodent Control	130
Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yards(Meat)	516
Food inspection	11
Food Hygiene	31
Milk and Dairies	4
Water Supply	61
Other Matters	53

E. PROCEDURE UNDER THE PUBLIC HEALTH ACT 1936.

Housing Complaints investigated (defects)	35
Informal Notices sent to Owners	16
Complaints abated	18
Statutory Notices served	Nil
Statutory Notices complied with	Nil
Prosecutions	Nil
Housing improvements carried out as a result of informal actions:-	
Internal and External improvements	14
Houses disinfected after vermin	6
Premises cleared of rats and mice	57

F. INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD.

Milk Supply:

There are 9 Supplementary licences in force authorising the sale in your area of Pasteurised, Sterilised and T.T.milk, by three dealers. Each dealer holding a principal licence in adjoining areas.

Food Premises in the area:

General Grocers	36
Butchers Shops	5
Groccngrocers	1
Fish Shops	1
Bakers	4
Cafes	4
Public Houses	44

Ice Cream:

No ice cream is manufactured in the area.

The following premises are registered under the Food and Drugs Act 1955 for the sale of pre-packed ice-cream.

General Stores and Shops	18
Bakers	2
Public Houses	3

Food Hygiene Regulations:

Some general improvement has again taken place during the year particularly with regard to cleanliness in food premises, as a result of improvements and modernisation, including the use of modern hygienic materials.

Requests for installation of wash basins have met with some success, but in some food premises installation of such necessities are temporarily awaiting general improvements to the property - including drainage facilities.

Offensive Trades:

There is one blood drying and gut scraping establishment licensed at the Blunts Hall Abattoir.

Licensed Slaughterhouses and Knackers Yards:

There are 5 licensed slaughterhouses and two knackers yards in the area.

The following animals (not for human consumption) were received at the Knackers Yards. Humane methods of slaughtering are used.

Cattle 386
Horses 35
Sheep 100
Pigs 56

Licensed Slaughtermen.

There are 33 licensed slaughtermen residing in the area.

CARCASES AND OFFAL INSPECTED AND CONDEMNED
IN WHOLE OR IN PART.

	Cattle	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number Killed	90	68	153,040	35
Number inspected	90	68	153,040	
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci:				Not for human consumption
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	1	148	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	8	1	Not known	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci	8.9	1.5	59,978 lbs.	
Tuberculosis only:				
Whole carcasses condemned	Nil	Nil	15	
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	2	Nil	Not known	
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis	2.2	Nil	210,695 lbs.	
Cysticercosis:				
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Carcasses submitted to treatment by refrigeration	Nil	Nil	Nil	
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	

The bulk of rejected meat is purchased by a contractor (outside your area) and processed into animal food, fertilizers, glues, greases etc.

Section G.

Prescribed particulars on the administration of the Factories Acts 1937 and 1948

Part 1 of the Act

1. -INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health(including inspections made by Public Health Inspectors)

Premises (1)	M/c line No. (2)	Number on Register (3)	Number of			M/c line No. (7)
			Inspections (4)	Written Notices (5)	Occupiers prosecuted (6)	
(i) Factories in which Sections 1,2,3,4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	1	2	3	-	-	1
(ii)Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority.	2	31	17	-	-	2
(iii)Other Premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers' premises) ..	3	-	-	-	-	3
Total		33	20	Nil	Nil	

2. CASES IN WHICH DEFECTS WERE FOUND

Particulars	M/c line No.	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted. (7)	M/c line No. (8)
		Found (3)	Remedied (4)	Referred To H.M. Inspector (5)	By H.M. Inspector (6)		
(1) Sanitary Conveniences (S.7) - (b) Unsuitable or defective	10	1	1	-	-	-	10
TOTAL ...		1	1	Nil	Nil	Nil	

PART VIII OF THE ACT

OUTWORK

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work (1)	M/c line No. (2)	No. of outworkers in August list required by Sec.110(1) (c) (3)
Making of Wearing apparel.....	13	28
Box Making etc.....	34	47
Total		75

G.P.BARCLAY, M.B., Ch.B.,D.P.H.

Medical Officer of Health

